

Residential

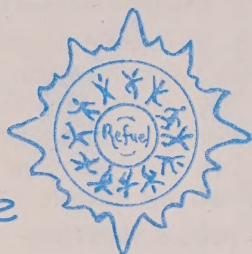
Education

or

Unique

Experiential

Learning



A residency program for
young adults at
the mountain.

January 4 - May 15, 1998





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REFUEL is a 5 month residency for 6 to 10 young adults seeking direction in defining goals for the future. In a creative and supportive environment, participants will build personal, interpersonal and professional skills. REFUEL is a flexible program, based on the interests and needs of its participants. You play a major role in developing the components of your residency. REFUEL will stretch your limits and expand your potential through emotional, physical, and mental challenges. REFUEL is designed to serve and nurture the needs of young adults who are going through a time of transition. You must be at least 18 but a high school diploma is not required. REFUEL is an alternative educational experience.

If you are interested in learning, challenging yourself and others & living in community, REFUEL is right for you.

experiential learning

CONTINUING EDUCATION

As an educational program, REFUEL challenges you to stretch yourself beyond the limits of the traditional academic setting. By engaging in a wide range of experiential learning opportunities, The Mountain becomes your "classroom" as you explore ideas, subjects and skills that fascinate you.

READING & WRITING

As a REFUEL participant, you will create reading lists based on your own interests so you can pursue subjects that inspire and motivate you. Together we will choose books and articles for sharing and discussion. Personal journal writing is an integral part of the program, allowing you to reflect on your readings and experiences.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Through small group training, you will find ways in which you can become a leader AND you will have opportunities to immediately practice what you learn within The Mountain community.

THE ARTS

You will have access to the creative arts through performances and activities at The Mountain and off-site. Opportunities will be available to develop your artistic skills and share them with the community.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

Through hiking, rock climbing, rafting & backpacking, increase your understanding of self in relationship to the environment and build adventure skills.

direction

APPRENTICESHIPS

To build hard skills and working relationships with staff, participants will "apprentice" in a survey of Mountain departments. You will set goals for each department with your mentor and supervisor. At the end of your rotation, we will work to articulate and evaluate what you learned. You will then choose an area of interest in which to specialize for more in-depth training. Participants apprentice an average of 20 hours per week.

intentionality

COMMUNITY SERVICE

At the core of the REFUEL program is the process of learning to understand *self* in the context of *community*; to understand yourself, it is essential to stay connected with those around you. Working in service to others becomes meaningful through the process of sharing and reflecting upon your experiences. Based on the interests of the REFUEL participants, individual and group service projects are available with area organizations, including:

Macon County R.E.A.C.H. (domestic violence)
Chattooga River Watershed Coalition
Habitat for Humanity
Western NC Alliance (grassroots environmental)
Western North Carolina AIDS Alliance

GUIDANCE SERVICES & GOAL SETTING

Participants will meet one-on-one with a counselor on a regular basis. Career counseling is available as well as help with resume and application writing. Setting your own goals is an important aspect of the REFUEL program. You will be provided with tools to push your limits and learn how to set and achieve personal goals.

LIVING IN TRANSITION

Times of transition can create struggles and questions. In REFUEL, you will have the opportunity to share, explore and articulate your values in a space free of judgment and doctrine. As a group, you will be asking each other the tough questions -- questions that help determine your future, individually and in community.

community

COMMUNITY LIVING

In a shared home, you will build trust and friendship, learning to balance your own needs with those of others in your REFUEL community. The Mountain/REFUEL community is a safe space to practice conflict management and problem solving in a confidential, caring atmosphere. As a group, you will work together to establish house rules. The REFUEL program will be an alcohol and drug free space.

The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center is a learning community ~ a non-profit organization with a long tradition of quality programming for youth and young adults.



REFUEL at **The Mountain** is about transitions ~ it's learning how to use change in your life to understand where you want to go and how to get there.

TO APPLY. . .

Call Sarah Walls at The Mountain (704-526-5838 extension 241) to request an application.

COST

The cost of the REFUEL program is \$3500. We have scholarship funds and payment plans available. The Mountain strives to be an inclusive community--please do not let financial considerations keep you from applying. If you have any questions, call us...we want to work with you.

Want to know more?

Call Sarah Walls, the REFUEL mentor, for program details and information about The Mountain.

(704) 526-5838 ext. 241

e-mail: mountain@dnet.net



The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center

PO Box 1299 • Highlands, NC 28741

(704) 526-5838 • fax (704) 526-2511

e-mail: mountain@dnet.net

<http://themountain.uua.org/mountain/>



The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center, Inc.



November 1997

Dear friends,

Greetings from the Mountain! Several Mountain staff members attended the GA State Conference "Reaching Out in the South" and not only brought back useful information but also talked about some of our Mountain programs. We are thrilled to be building our gay, lesbian and bisexual constituencies and hope that the word continues to spread that the Mountain is a safe space to be "out."

Here at the Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, I am the Young Adult Programs Director. One of our new programs is a residency for young adults called REFUEL (Residential Education For Unique Experiential Learning). I have enclosed a brochure that includes all the details. You may know of someone in your community who could use this program. Perhaps there is a young person who has great potential and passionate interests and yet can't seem to get on the right track. I would ask that you share the brochure with that person and help me get connected with him or her.

Please do not hesitate to call or write if you have any questions or specific suggestions of possible candidates. I look forward to hearing from you!

Take care,

Sarah Walls

Sarah Walls
REFUEL Mentor



Second Stone's Outreach Partner Program



1. Complete your ministry profile:

Church/organization name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Meeting place: (if different from address) _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Worship/meeting day/time: _____

Pastor: _____

Other information you would like to have included:

2. Register your ministry as an Outreach Partner:

BELOW NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Outreach Partner coordinator: _____

Address: (if different from profile address) _____

Work phone: (____) _____ Home phone: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

IMPORTANT! Street address to which UPS can ship your Outreach Partner copies:

3. Start thinking about your Outreach Partner plan.

While we are processing your registration, you can be working on your plan for your mission field:

1. What time of year is best to distribute Second Stone - along with your brochure - in your area? We'll need to know which issue you would like to distribute. We are currently signing up partners for Jul/Aug97, Sept/Oct97, Nov/Dec97, Jan/Feb98, Mar/Apr98, and May/June98.
2. How many copies will you be able to distribute? 100? 200? 500? 1000? Multiply every distribution location you think of - community center, coffee shop, bookstore, bar, PFLAG meeting, etc. - by 10 or 15. If you need a suggested list of locations in your area, we can provide that for you.
3. Lay out your (free) Outreach Partner ad. Your ad needs to be 2 1/2 inches wide by 3 inches tall. It should include your logo, address and phone, service or meeting times, and a call to action like "Come visit us at..." or "Call for information about..."

4. Mail in your ministry profile and registration.

Your registration includes your ministry profile listing, a one year subscription to Second Stone and gives you access to Second Stone's Outreach Partner Community Fund. (THE REGISTRATION FEE IS THE ONLY FEE YOU WILL BE ASKED TO PAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM!)

- ☐ Please register my church/organization in Second Stone's Outreach Partner program. I enclose \$25 registration fee.
- ☐ I am enclosing a contribution to Second Stone's Outreach Partner program: _____
- ☐ I may not be ready to become an Outreach Partner, but I would like to subscribe to Second Stone.

I enclose \$19 for a one year subscription.

MAIL IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE OR TO SECOND STONE, PO BOX 8340, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70182

Second Stone®

Second Stone's Outreach Partner Program
can help make your ministry known to gay
and lesbian people in your community.

Dear partner in ministry:

Reaching out to the gay and lesbian community with the joyful message of God's love and sustaining grace for all is indeed as challenging as it is rewarding. As I mail this letter to you today, it leaves my office with my prayer for your enduring strength and continuing courage as you work in your community through your ministry to proclaim the old, old story.

I am writing today to invite you to join Second Stone's Outreach Partner Program, so that we might work together there in your neighborhood to make more gay and lesbian people aware of your particular ministry and the worship and fellowship experiences that you have to offer.

BUT FIRST - you may not know about Second Stone, so let me tell you. Second Stone is the national newspaper for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Christians. We're a 28-page bimonthly first published in 1988. Our paper includes inspiring and uplifting "Faith In Daily Life" features, devotionals, complete and up to date national and world news of interest to gay and lesbian Christians, church and organization news including an event calendar, letters, commentary, book, video and music reviews, Reader to Reader Direct Connect, a special section on faith in the struggle with AIDS and a national resource guide with over 800 listings.

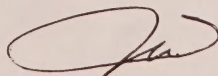
Our Outreach Partner program provides copies of Second Stone for free distribution in local communities. Our partners in ministry are listed on the front page along with an invitation for readers to visit the local ministry, which receives, at no cost, advertising space to provide details about their ministry. Your ministry profile is also listed in our national resource guide.

Printing and shipping expenses are paid for by the Outreach Partner Community Fund, to which ministries may contribute enough to cover expenses - or more, or less, or nothing.

Some of our Outreach Partners include Integrity, Providence, R.I.; Freedom in Christ Evangelical Church in San Francisco, Church of the Resurrection MCC in Chicago; Irvine United Church of Christ in Irvine, Ca.; Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, Oh.; Celebration of Faith in San Jose; Third Lutheran Church in Louisville; Metropolitan Community Church in Las Vegas; Other Sheep in Richmond, In.; Community Gospel Church in Dayton, Oh.; Park Avenue Christian Church in New York City; Abiding Peace Lutheran Church in Kansas City, Mo.; Light-house Apostolic Church in Schenectady, N.Y.; and many more.

Join us, won't you, in boldly proclaiming God's gifts for our sisters and brothers - in your neighborhood, and all across the land. I've enclosed details about our Outreach Partner program, along with a request for your response. If you have any questions, please contact me at (504)899-4014 or by e-mail at secstone@aol.com. I am looking forward to learning more about your ministry and to working with you in your mission field.

With many blessings,



Jim Bailey,
Editor and Publisher

YES! Send me a subscription to Second Stone!

I want to get the national newspaper
for gay and lesbian Christians. Send me:

- ☐ 1 year, 6 issues for \$17
- ☐ 2 years, 12 issues for \$28
- ☐ 3 years, 18 issues for \$39
- ☐ Plain envelope add \$2 per year.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip+4 _____

...and send my friends a gift subscription to

Second Stone. Your friends will be
reminded of your thoughtfulness all year
long... every time an issue arrives.

Please list on reverse names and addresses
(with zip code!) of recipients. (All gift subscrip-
tions are mailed in an envelope.)

- ☐ 1 gift subscription, \$19
- ☐ 2 gift subscriptions, \$32
- ☐ 3 gift subscriptions, \$45
- ☐ 4 gift subscriptions, \$60

(Non-U.S. addresses add \$10 per year.)

Sign gift card: _____

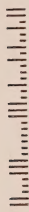
YOUR ORDER TOTAL: _____

Please mail this form with your remittance in
the enclosed reply envelope.

Second Stone[®]

P O BOX 8340

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70182-8340



SECOND STONE

P O BOX 8340

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BETHANY RETREAT HOUSE

***Experience God's healing and
renewal in a beautiful and
tranquil setting.***



A Program of

***Bethany Christian Life
Ministries***

P.O. Box 469

Winterville, Ga 30683

706-742-2934

E-Mail: BethanyMin @ aol.com

Why BETHANY?

The name is taken from the small town on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives, overlooking Jerusalem. Here it was that Jesus visited in the home of Lazarus, with his two sisters, Mary and Martha. For Jesus, it was a place of relaxed security in the midst of pressure-filled ministry (Luke 10:38); a place of teaching (Luke 10:39-42); a setting for miracles (John 1:1). In a busy life which Jesus described as "the Son of Man has no place to lay his head" (Matthew 8:20), Bethany was clearly an oasis of safety and hospitality, a place akin to "home".

How BETHANY CAME TO BE

The seeds of Bethany's ministry were sown in the mid-1980's. While pastoring in Southern California, Rev. Scott began to think and talk about the need for a retreat ministry.

Wouldn't it be great if.....

During the years, 1986-1993, when Rev. Scott was ministering in England, the dream of a retreat ministry was overshadowed by the pastoral concerns. But this was a dream that would not die. "The idea of a retreat house kept niggling around in the back of my mind, never quite going away, never coming into focus."

Early in 1990, the vision of a retreat house began to dominate his thinking and his prayers. Ideas and plans appeared in his journal. God's direction for his future was being set, although he was not fully aware of it at the time.

"My English Journal is full of ideas and information regarding the Retreat Ministry, including the name, **Bethany** - notations made during daily devotional times: another significant experience while visiting the Christian community in Iona, Scotland.

"In 1993, I came home to the United States. When God led me to pastor again at MCC Asheville, North Carolina, I embraced the idea excitedly, confident that the Retreat Ministry would develop in the context of the pastorate. However, it gradually became evident that this was not the plan and again the dream took a back seat to pastoral and personal issues. In January, 1997, however, a dramatic spiritual renewal led directly to the dawning awareness that God's timing for the Retreat Ministry was imminent."

When God's wheels began to turn, it was a rapid, sometimes bumpy and difficult, eventually exhilarating ride. Rev. Frank left pastoral ministry in Western North Carolina the end of June. After a month away to attend UFMCC's General Conference in Australia, he and his spouse went to Athens to look for property. Amazingly they found 'the place' right off, on Friday, August 8, and exchanged contracts by the end of the month. In Athens, on October 27, 1997, they took possession of the property at 1145 Cherokee Avenue.

At last! Bethany!



YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION

Let this be your personal invitation to visit Bethany Retreat House: *to find that this is your special place.*

SUGGESTED DONATIONS

Weekend Rate (Friday Night - through Sunday)
\$75.00 per person

Week Day Night: (Sunday - Thursday)
\$25.00 per person

Weekend Night: (Friday or Saturday)
\$35.00 person

Weekly Rate (per 7 day stay)
\$250 per person

Monthly Rate
\$800 per person

(Includes room, self serve breakfast, lunch and a prepared dinner. Work for stay programs are available.)



WHAT AND WHERE

Bethany is a retreat house located in a secluded, park-like setting on the eastern edge of Athens, Georgia. The split-level ranch-style building, set in five acres of woodland with a pond, is only minutes from the heart of Athens - about 90 minutes from Atlanta.

The beauty and tranquility of the setting, together with the warm hospitality of the resident staff, encourage every visitor to linger. A place to set aside everyday cares and concerns, to find spiritual renewal and physical rejuvenation - Bethany.

Resident Founder, Rev. Frank Scott, offers a selection of retreat options: from a structured weekend with a Retreat Director to a self-motivated retreat either in silence or in community. Individuals, couples and small groups can be accommodated. Longer stays - up to a month in length - or shorter stays (an overnight or day visit) may be arranged. Christian healing ministry, including therapeutic Swedish massage, is available upon request.



BETHANY CHRISTIAN LIFE MINISTRIES
P.O. Box 469
WINTERVILLE, GA 30687



BETHANY

CHRISTIAN LIFE MINISTRIES

P.O.Box 469
Winterville, GA 30683
1 April, 1998

Rev. Marge Ragona
Covenant MCC
P.O. Box 101473
Birmingham, AL 35210

Dear Marge:

Greetings from Bethany Retreat House in Athens, Georgia!

I want to take this opportunity to give you a brief update on what is happening at Bethany.

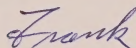
We submitted an application to the District Committee last November for recognition as a Special Work of the District. They deferred making a decision, requesting us to come back to them when we have established a track record of ministry.

The past four months have been devoted to preparing both the house and property for use a Retreat Facility, ie furnishing the guest rooms and grooming the property. I am pleased to say to you that, effective 1 April, Bethany is "open for business"!

Our present accommodation is for up to 12 people, individually, in couples or in small groups - day visit, overnight or weekends. We have two rooms with a double bed in each, one room with two single beds and a "dorm" room with three sets of bunk beds to accommodate up to six people. A larger group can be accommodated for a day visit, ie a Saturday retreat experience.

I am enclosing a leaflet about Bethany. We would appreciate your posting this on the church bulletin board or, in the way of your choice, informing your congregation about Bethany and its ministry. I would be delighted to come personally to share with them, briefly of course, if you so choose. If you are interested in booking a retreat or in receiving further information, please contact us at (706) 742-2934 or BethanyMin@aol.com

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Frank W. Scott

P.S. Apologies for the form letter format. It's easier when dealing with a couple hundred letters. Looking forward to seeing you at District Conference in Mobile, Alabama!

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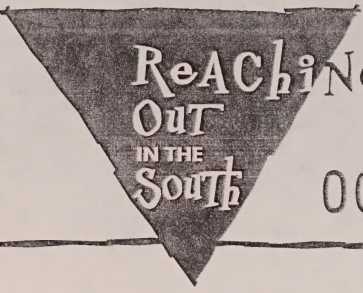
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P.O. Box 469
WINTERVILLE, CA 95683





Reaching Out IN THE South

OCTOBER 24-26, 1997 ATLANTA, GA

NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCACY COALITION'S 1997 SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The Third Annual Southern Conference for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgendered Youth, Their Advisors, Counselors, & Allies
Co-hosted by The National Youth Advocacy Coalition and The Atlanta Gay-Straight Alliance

WHAT

This conference is designed to:

- raise awareness of the issues and needs facing Southern LGBT youth
- offer an opportunity for youth to gather in a safe and affirming environment to share experiences, decrease feelings of isolation, find support for advocacy, and socialize with other LGBT youth
- provide advisors, counselors, and allies of LGBT youth with information and training which is important in developing and maintaining appropriate and meaningful service for LGBT youth

WHERE

Georgia State University Conference Center, Atlanta, Georgia

WHEN

October 24-26, 1997

WHO

This conference is for you if you are:

- a lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered youth, or an ally
- an advisor, counselor, ally and/or sponsor to a student organization or youth group
- interested in lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered youth issues

MORE TO COME

Look for registration information in the mail this summer

QUESTIONS?

Write to:

Reaching Out in the South
c/o The Atlanta Gay-Straight Alliance
P.O. Box 3054, Decatur, GA 30031

SAVE THE DATE

